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SOCER WORLD

THE VOICE OF
AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

20c

AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

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February 19, 1971.

Best in Australia

Red Tulip

CONTINENTAL
CHOCOLATES

OCEANIA CUP IN OCT. HELD IN NOUMEA

— By LOU GAUTIER —

There will be no end of season overseas tour this year for Australia's national team.

As we first indicated in our January 22 issue, the ASF has scrapped plans to send the team on an Asian or European tour in October-November.

Australia, instead, will be represented by the full national team at the first Oceania Nations' Cup in Noumea, in the first week of October.

The trip to New Caledonia is scheduled to take place before Australia plays a series of matches at home against an overseas national team.

Australia's opponents in Noumea will be fellow-Oceania Confederation members, New Zealand, New Caledonia, Tahiti, Fiji, and maybe also Papua-New Guinea.

As in 1970, when the matches against New Caledonia served as useful warm-up practice for the arduous tour matches ahead, this year's exercise in the French island is also planned as a work-out for the matches the national team will play a few days later in Australia.

MEXICAN VISIT?

There is every indication the ASF will follow our suggestion and invite the Mexican national team to play a series of full internationals against Australia, starting about mid-October.

The Mexicans are likely to accept the invitation as they are due to tour Europe extensively in September, playing matches in Italy, West Germany, France, Belgium and Spain.

The ASF is confident it can induce the Mexicans to return home via Australia — an attractive proposition financially as they would then only have to pay the balance of the Mexicans' round the world airfares.

When the Australians were in Mexico last December the newly-appointed president of their federation, Jose Luis Perez Noriega, told me he was looking forward to sending the Mexican team to Australia in October this year.

Australian Federation secretary Brian Le Fevre this week said he would issue an official invitation to Mexico in the next few weeks.

Le Fevre also announced that plans were well under



Allan Hignett, of Pan Hellenic, literally had a hand in Hakoah's equaliser — the ball bounced in from his hand as Tim Pockley's action shot from last Saturday's match shows.

NEW CALEDONIANS HERE

Jeunesse Sportive de la Vallee du Tir, a leading New Caledonian club better known by the initials JSVDT, arrived this week for two matches in NSW.

The Noumea club will play against South Coast at Woonona this Sunday afternoon, and on Saturday week, February 27, against Second Division Sutherland at Seymour Shaw Park.

Vallee du Tir have three New Caledonian internationals in their line-up.

They were runners-up in last year's New Caledonian league, which they won in 1962, 1965 and 1967.

JSVDT also have a great record in the New Caledonian Cup, which they took out five years in a row, from 1964 to 1968.

APIA ONLY CUP SEMI CERTAINITY

APIA last week assured themselves of yet another place in an Ampol Cup semifinal by defeating Marconi.

With 46 points the Cup holders have a handy lead in Group "B" and since St. George-Budapest will not take part in the semis should they qualify, APIA can afford to lose on Wednesday and still come through.

Since 1959 APIA have only missed out on the Ampol Cup semifinals once — in 1965.

Prague, six times winners of the Cup, should accompany APIA in Group "B" into the semifinals.

They could make absolutely certain of it on Sunday by beating South Sydney, who are still chasing a win.

The picture in Group "A" is still totally obscure although Western Suburbs took a giant step towards the semifinals when they beat Ryde 3-2 in last Friday's thriller.

A much clearer picture will emerge after the Hakoah v. Ryde, Pan Hellenic v. Wests, Ryde v. Pan Hellenic, Wests v. Auburn and Pan Hellenic v. Marrickville Olympic matches this week.

Western Suburbs should easily account for the dimly inadequate Auburn, but all the other games could go either way, even Sunday's Pan Hellenic v. Marrickville as it will be Hellenic's third outing in five days.

For what it's worth, we feel that Hakoah and Western Suburbs will have their noses in front before next week's last qualifying round.

A pleasing aspect of the series has been the consistent goalscoring rate so far.

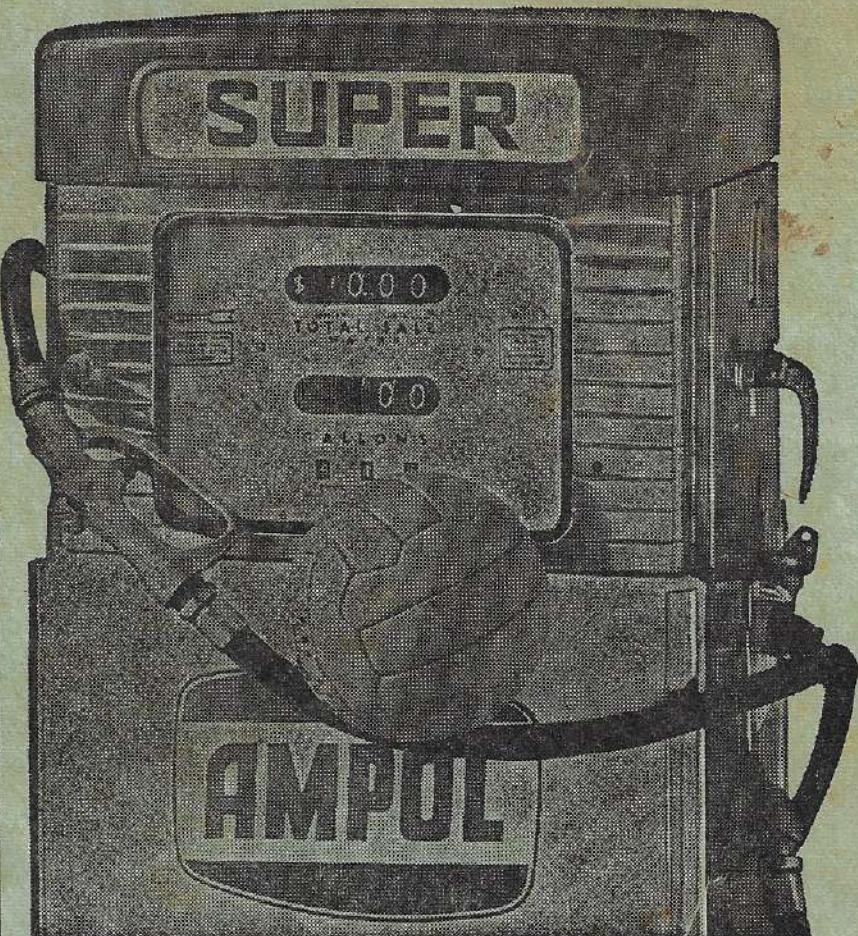
The 15 matches played to date have yielded 57 goals, or an average of 3.8 per match.

Crowd-wise, Sydney's current spell of wet weather has played such havoc with fixtures that it's impossible to notice any trend for the winter season ahead.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Two pages of Ampol Cup details.
- Background notes to the Doyle-Keddie case.
- Hakoah resist pressure.
- Bantu soccer approaching world class.
- National League daydreaming.
- The latest overseas news.
- Reports from Melbourne and Adelaide.
- Second Division preview continues.
- The amateur scene.

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OFFICIAL PROGRAM OF NSW FEDERATION

THIS WEEK

AMPOL CUP

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Hakoah v. Ryde — Marks Field, 7.30 p.m.
St. George-Budapest v. APIA — Marks Field, 8.55 p.m.
Pan Hellenic v. Western Suburbs — Garside Park, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Auburn v. Western Suburbs — Garside Park 7.30 p.m.
Ryde v. Pan Hellenic — Garside Park, 8.55 p.m.
St. George-Budapest v. Sth. Sydney — Woonona, 7.30 p.m.
South Coast v. Marconi — Woonona, 8.55 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

South Sydney v. Prague — Wentworth Park, 2.15 p.m.
Pan Hellenic v. Marrickville Olympic — Wentworth Pk., 3.40

NEXT WEEK

AMPOL CUP

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Hakoah v. Western Suburbs — Marks Field, 7.30 p.m.
Marrickville Olympic v. Ryde — Marks Field, 8.55 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

SCU v. South Sydney — Woonona, 8 p.m.
APIA v. Prague — Marks Field, 7.30 p.m.
St. George-Budapest v. Marconi — Marks Field, 8.55 p.m.
Auburn v. Pan Hellenic — Garside Park, 8 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

NSW v. Dynamo Moscow — Sydney Sports Ground, 3.00 p.m.

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SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

Eastern Suburbs Association club QUEENS PARK S.C. is seeking a senior goalkeeper, field players and junior coaches for the 1971 season. Please contact J. Eve on 38-6145 or 38-6010.

Those HAKOAH fans who were dismayed with the pathetic showing of their forwards in the first half against Pan Hellenic should be cheered by the fact that an almost entirely new forward line is waiting in the wings: Blitz, Keddie, Rutherford and Rianelli, not to mention Walsh, their oft ignored midfield player.

ERIC RAMSAY, the former NSW Federation Executive member and long-time president of Balgownie, ousted the sitting Liberal Party member to win the seat of Wollongong for the ALP at last Saturday's State elections.

Ex-APIA stalwart FILIPPO BOTTAICO will actually be coaching a combined Griffith representative team in his new post. Six Riverina clubs have banded together to field their best players as a unit in the ACT (Canberra) First Division competition.

GERRY HOOD has now officially been transfer-listed by Western Suburbs. So far there have been no takers for the still prolific goalscorer.

Players wishing to join Hakoah's JUNIOR TEAMS should ring A. Vilan on 37-4989.

At an extraordinary General Meeting Melita Eagles elected several NEW MEN on their Committee. New secretary of the club is Eddie Bartolo and the new treasurer is Joe Chircop. Other newcomers include Vince Muscat, Joe Mallie, Lou Marks, Ron Grima and A. Sammut.

The VAUCUSE amateur club will play a trial match at Outer Wentworth Park at 11 a.m. on Sunday morning. New players welcome.



The reason why Hakoah's ALLAN MARNOCH played below his best against Pan Hellenic last Saturday was because he stepped on some nails at work 48 hours before the match and needed tetanus injections to clear the infection. Marnoch has changed jobs and now works in the construction industry.

Hakoah's goalie FRANK HAFFEY is now in the insurance business. What else could he do — with such a safe pair of hands?

St. George's new Irish import, HERRON, arrived last weekend. Herron played with Northern Ireland's Bangor City.

Melita Eagles and Balgownie played a 2-2 draw in a TRIAL MATCH at Figtree Oval last Sunday.

BANKSTOWN UNITED beat Polonia-North Side 7-2 in a trial match at Bankstown Centre last Saturday.

FRANK CUSH, surely one of the unluckiest players in Australian soccer, is certain to need yet another cartilage operation — his third in as many years. The South Sydney forward had to pull out of last year's Australian touring team when he sustained the injury which necessitates the present operation in the final round-robin series.

MANFRED SCHAEFER may soon quit his public service job to start his own milk run.

Marrickville Olympic signed BILLIE KERKLAAN from Melita Eagles last Friday for \$750. Kerklaan scored a goal in his debut for his new club on Sunday against Auburn.

Melita Eagles has switched their TRAINING SESSION from Curtis Oval, Dundas, to Camden Oval, St. Peters, every Tuesday and Thursday. The club is still looking for youngsters for its third grade side.

MANLY will play a trial game against Polonia at Bankstown Soccer Centre this Saturday.



South Coast are showing an interest in DAVID CLISS, the St. George-Budapest midfielder.

RICHARD GAMANSKI, the Catholic priest who played on the right wing for Polonia last season, has returned to Melbourne to play for the local Polonia club.

ROY BLITZ arrived back in Sydney last Saturday and is keen to rejoin the fold in Hakoah.

Kathie, the wife of Ryde commiteman IVAN BRBOT, gave birth to a baby boy, Frank, at St. Margaret's Hospital last week. It's the Brbots' first child.

Western Suburbs have come to terms with Melita Eagles over goalkeeper TERRY EATON and were expected to sign him up this week.

DENNIS COMPTON, the former English test cricketer now a journalist with the "Evening Standard" watched Australia play against Luton Town last November. Compton, now in Australia for the Anglo-Australian series, said the standard of last year's tourists was much higher than he expected.

Hakoah's goalie FRANK HAFFEY is now in the insurance business. What else could he do — with such a safe pair of hands?

St. George's veteran TOM-MY ANDERSON joined the "Mirror" as a fulltime sportswriter last Monday. We welcome him as a colleague.

Western Suburbs are considering a swap with Hakoah-Melbourne between HAMMY McMEEECHAN, who has now returned to Melbourne, and

Good news for the depleted South Sydney is the return of NEIL CLARKE from Perth. Clarke, a useful defender, started training immediately.



Melita Eagles have reduced CASEY DE BRUIN's transfer fee to \$1,500. Casey, who lives in the Wollongong area, is unable to come up to Sydney to negotiate with a new club and he would be grateful if clubs interested in his services rang Wollongong 56-1695.

Letter to Editor

"GRANNY" BOYCOTT

Whatever happened to the soccer coverage in the "Sydney Morning Herald"?

Not so long ago in the forefront of soccer reporting, the "Herald" has virtually ignored soccer in the past few months.

Their current Ampol Cup coverage is non-existent, which is not surprising, really, when one remembers the scant space they gave the Australian team on last year's world tour.

The "Herald" no longer represents any value for soccer fans.

I, for one, stopped buying it this year, and perhaps if others join me, the sporting editor may be forced to change his anti-soccer views and give the sport the recognition it deserves.

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THE DOYLE-KEDDIE CASE

ASF should keep its sense of proportions

— By LOU GAUTIER —

The unfortunate Doyle-Keddie affair which leaked out last week because of a regrettable indiscretion in high Australian Federation places must go no further.

The clumsy handled "minor" breach of discipline must be dropped at once before it throws more bad light on soccer.

Nothing can be gained if it is allowed to develop into a witch-hunt at this stage, well after the event.

As a member of the last touring party I am aware of all the facts of what has now become a "cause celebre".

Those facts are:

• Keddie and Doyle broke the curfew imposed on the team in Macao when they returned home after the midnight deadline.

• Coach Zvonimir Rasic wanted to send Keddie home there and then because it was alleged he had also broken the ban on alcohol, but the managers decided against this drastic action as it would have cost the ASF a packet to disrupt the group travel arrangements.

• In England, between the Luton and Manchester City matches, Keddie spoke back to Rasic, using unprintable language, during a training stint in the rain.

• He was ordered off the field and Rasic made it clear that as far as he was concerned Keddie was "persona non grata" for the rest of the tour.

• Although the two pressmen travelling with the team, Bruce Walkley, of Australian Associated Press and myself, were not told officially, we found out that Keddie had been docked a week's wages (\$70.00) as punishment.

• In Macao, after the first incident, although Keddie and Doyle were severely reprimanded at the breakfast table in front of their team-mates for breaking the curfew, tour officials asked the Press to play down the incident.

• At this stage it was obvious that the managers, if not coach Rasic, who from the start demanded harsh penalties as an example for the rest of the team, were prepared to gloss over the Macao incident.

• Bruce Walkley, actually, came in for some criticism when newspaper cuttings from Australia reached the team in Israel. Walkley and I mentioned the Macao incident without using names, but newspaper headlines over AAP reports, we were told by officials, gave the "wrong impression".

PARSONS' DENIAL

NSW Federation president Frank Parsons this week denied he had asked for further punitive measures in his tour report.

Parsons told me he never recommended anything like what appeared in the Sydney afternoon Press, and that as far as he was concerned the incident was closed.

In view of his attitude, it seems odd, to say the least, that some ASF officials should now make such a big noise over what was then regarded as a



JOHN DOYLE

It can be argued that the Vojtek episode in Dublin was more serious than Doyle's offence.

The Victorian, piqued at being selected as a reserve only against the League of

PAUL DEAN COMMENTS:

Only a fool would dispute that without rules and discipline, no soccer team could and should operate overseas.

It's up to the managers and coaches to spell out clearly all the duties and obligations of the players—and then it's up to the players to observe them.

If someone really steps out of line, he will have to face the music afterwards.

But do they really misbehave as often as we are led to believe?

It's no secret that in 1969 Willie Rutherford had some clashes with officials in Korea, over his attitude to training.

The result was that Rutherford was almost sent home.

Yet, at the same time, several other players stepped out of line in different ways—and got away with it.

Some of the team officials had known about it, but preferred to close their eyes.

And in the case of at least three players, the offence was much more serious than Rutherford's sulking at the training ground.

In Mozambique several players broke the curfew, but only one was caught and mildly disciplined, while the others didn't even rate a "dishonorable" mention.

Now it's the turn of Keddie and Doyle, whose "crimes" are related above.

HELP LEGACY all the year round

Ireland, didn't take his equipment to Dalymount Park and stated he was "finished" with international soccer after a fracas outside the dressing room.

When he apologised to coach Rasic and manager Frank Parsons, the incident was regarded as closed.

John Doyle's conduct was exemplary after Macao and the loss of a week's wages, plus the fact that he was virtually held incommunicado should be punishment enough for David Keddie.

Fining Keddie another \$200, on top of the \$70 deducted from his wages, would not serve justice and would be excessive punishment for his "crimes".

He has amply paid for his escapades—financially and in mental anguish.

By pursuing the matter the ASF will only succeed in tarnishing the image of the whole touring party.

Their conduct on and off the field was outstanding and only attracted praise everywhere we went, from Australian ambassadors down to foreign pressmen and officials.

The ASF must not allow this current storm in a teacup to dissipate the fantastic goodwill the 1971 tour has brought the game.

DAVID KEDDIE

I am not trying to whitewash any of the players who have been carpeted—but are these crimes really so serious?

Does the breaking of a curfew, for example, warrant banishment from the national team for ever?

I really doubt it. In most cases, a simple fine would be enough.

But have all our touring officials previous to 1970 always been lilywhite themselves?

I know it would make excellent reading if, for a change, the players were asked to submit tour reports.

As it is, only the officials have the right of making observations and recommendations.

Has anybody ever dared even mention, to this very day, the incredible goof

IT'S STILL THE OLD DIVIDE AND RULE...

The NSW Federation is highly unlikely to introduce in 1971 a new system of splitting teams on the same number of points.

It has been suggested that in future the goal difference and not goal average should decide between teams who finish on the same number of points.

The Federation has asked the ASF to obtain from FIFA advice on the matter.

FIFA is certain to reply that they have no interest in the matter.

It is up to the individual countries which method they adopt.

An increasing number of European associations have already switched to the goal difference.

If not in 1971, then in 1972 for sure NSW will also adopt the new method.

BANTUS on SOCCER'S WARPATH

South Africa's 500,000 native soccer players are the forgotten men of world soccer and live in an international limbo which is not of their doing.

Because the South African FA has been indefinitely suspended by FIFA for practising apartheid, the country's 12 million blacks, who constitute 70 per cent of the population, have been shut out from the rest of the world.

Contrary to popular belief, rugby union is NOT South Africa's main sport.

The rugby code may be a religion to the white Africans, but the black majority lives for soccer alone, and its own leagues attract considerably larger crowds than the all-white National League.

Capacity crowds of 40,000 are the rule rather than the exception every Saturday during the season at Soweto's Orlando Stadium.

Soweto, a sprawling African township outside Johannesburg, has 800 soccer clubs and throughout the week every inch of open space, mainly grassless dustbowls, is taken up by Bantu kicking soccer balls.

Bethuel Morolo, the president of the South African Bantu Football Association, explains his people's passion for soccer: "The sport suits the temperament, suppleness and instinct of our youngsters."

"Rugby is considered too rough and unrefined. It also has the stigma of being administered and avidly followed by most whites, and that alone is enough to turn the Bantu away from the game."

"The international successes of the colored Brazilians and of Eusebio, who was born in neighboring Mozambique, caught the Bantu's imagination and played a big part, some 10 years ago, in spreading the game like wildfire among the Bantu," he says.

"Now all Bantu schools and mines have introduced soccer, and more important, are playing in organised competitions under the control of our association, which, along the lines of apartheid, is all-native at all levels of administration."

"The whites run their soccer affairs, we run ours, and as long as the present government policy continues, the twain shall never meet."

OWN NATIONAL LEAGUE

South Africa's Bantu soccer is about to launch its own National League, 10 years after the whites, whose national championship has become one of huge successes of South African sport.

Rugby Union, for all its popularity, has no club competition, only interstate matches, so soccer has filled the gap in club football and has thrived, despite the lack of international match-play.

The new National League will be called the Airborne League, a fitting name because all travel will be by air, and airline companies will be the major sponsors, as they are for the all-white National League.

The competition will include teams from Johannesburg, Durban, which also has a large stadium (for natives only), the Umlazi Stadium, Capetown and Swaziland, the independent Bantu State, for a start.

Teams will be competing for \$50,000 in prize-money and gifts, and within two years officials are confident that all National League clubs will be fully professional.

At the moment players are semi-professional, but the top clubs, like Moroko Swallows, Pimville United Brothers and Kaiser Chiefs pay their stars enough to live off soccer.

CRUSADING NEWSPAPER

The Bantu's own newspaper, THE WORLD, has played a leading role in propagating the code among Africans.

It was THE WORLD which launched the idea of a Bantu National League and got large firms and business houses to come in as sponsors.

The newspaper has also started a campaign to bring home the expatriate Bantu now playing abroad.

These include Albert Johannesson, of Leeds United, Danger Makatele (Wolverhampton), Makatini and Darius Dhlomo, who play for FC Twente and Go Ahead respectively, in Holland, and also Steve Mokone, who had a brief spell in Melbourne a few years back before moving to the United States where he now plays for the Oakland Clippers.

Last year this crusading newspaper brought the legendary Brazilian fullback Djalma Santos out to South Africa.

Santos toured the Bantu areas and was mobbed wherever he went.

Before returning home he stated that he hadn't seen so many promising players even in Brazil, and that an all-Bantu South African team could within a few years play an important role in world soccer.

Santos, who has often watched international matches in Africa, is convinced that South Africa already has the best players on the continent.

—by Henri Garcia in
FOOTBALL MAGAZINE

AMPOL CUP 1971

WESTS v. RYDE 3-2

GOALSCORING FEAST

Wests took Ryde to task from the kick-off with some clever movements in attack that had the usually sound Ryde defence backpedalling under pressure.

However, it was Ryde who opened the score when a cross by winger Joe Alagich down the centre was driven hard by centre-forward Brajkovic towards goal.

Goalkeeper Ross Kelly stopped the shot but failed to hold it, and inside-forward Takac hit an easy rebound into the net.

For a short period Ryde seemed to gain the upper-hand, but some determined attacks by Wests brought good results with two superb

goals by Wim Spiekerman, which gave them the lead at half-time.

Best goal of the match was scored by midfielder George Kinnell who connected in mid-air to a right flank pass to score with a right-footed drive from 20 yards out.

Kinnell, youngster Brian Turner and the deadly accurate Spiekerman were Wests' most outstanding men in a smooth, well-drilled combination.

Ryde missed the prompting of Rafanelli in midfield and in this department the result of the match was determined.

Wests: Kelly 3, Van Blerk 4, Hargreaves 4, Johnston 4, Kinnell 5, Blue 3, Pont 4, Guildea 3, Turner 4, Spiekerman 4, Byles 3. **Total:** 41.

Ryde: Cajkusic 4; Cricic 4,

Bakaric 3, Waters 3, I. Rudić 4, Trkulja 4, J. Alagich 3, F. Rudić 3, Brajkovic 4, Takac 3, Volar 3. **Total:** 38.

Scorers: Spiekerman 13 and 28 mins., Kinnell 43 min. for Wests; Takac 9 min., Brajkovic 49 min. for Ryde.

Referee: W. Novelli.

Crowd: 4,217 (double-header). — CHARLES SPITERI

SCU v. ST. GEORGE 2-1

SOUR SUKIYAKI

A complete reversal of form largely brought about by the inclusion of Gary Tuckerman in the South Coast defence, enabled the provincials to down St. George-Budapest at Woonona.

The score even somewhat flattered the Japan-bound visitors as South Coast were almost continually on top.

Unlike Friday night against Prague, they showed great fighting spirit and their midfield play was excellent.

St. George's already shaky defence was further weakened when Harry Williams had to be replaced after only 15 minutes by Tommy Anderson.

Saints' main worry in this match was goalie Jim Fraser, who performed exceptionally poorly, especially when the ball was floated high into the goalmouth.

It was ironic that it was the "wandering" Alan Ainslie, only having his first game this season, who was St. George's best player.

Ainslie topped off a great performance with a colossal 10-yard goal as good as any seen at Woonona for some time.

South Coast: Ramage 4, Tuckerman 5, Cuthbert 4, Walker 5, Wilson 3, Galbraith 4, McGuckin 3, Gruicic 3, Tolson 3, Dunlop 3, McGunning 3. **Total:** 40.

St. George-Budapest: Fraser 2, Sandell 3, Utjesenovic 3, Schaefer 3, Anderson 2 (replaced Williams 15 min.), Campbell 3, Ainslie 5, Abonyi 2, Warren 4, Alston 4, Denton 4. **Total:** 35.

Scorers: McGuckin 25 min., Tolson 37 min. for South Coast; Ainslie 65 min. for St. George-Budapest.

Referee: N. Campbell. **Crowd:** 1,875.

— PETER SCHUMACHER

AMPOL TABLES

GROUP "A"		GROUP "B"											
W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P		
Hakoah	2	1	—	9	1	38	APIA	3	—	10	2	46	
Wests	2	—	—	6	2	30	Prague	2	—	1	8	6	32
Ryde	1	—	1	6	3	18	Marconi	1	—	2	6	8	18
Merrickville	1	—	2	3	7	15	St. George	1	—	1	3	3	15
Pan Hellenic	—	1	—	1	6	15	SCU	1	—	2	3	6	15
Auburn	—	—	3	1	12	1	South Sydney	—	—	2	2	7	2

AMPOL RESULTS

GROUP "A"

	Auburn	Hakoah	Merrickville	Pan Hellenic	Ryde	Wests
Auburn	●	0-5	1-3	—	0-4	—
Hakoah	5-0	●	3-0	1-1	—	—
Merrickville	3-1	0-3	●	—	—	0-3
Pan Hellenic	—	1-1	●	—	—	—
Ryde	4-0	—	—	●	2-3	—
Wests	—	3-0	—	3-2	●	—

GROUP "B"

	APIA	Marconi	Prague	St. George	South Coast	South Sydney
APIA	●	3-1	—	2-0	5-1	—
Marconi	1-3	●	3-4	—	2-1	—
Prague	—	4-3	●	1-2	3-1	—
St. George	—	—	2-1	●	1-2	—
South Coast	0-2	—	1-3	2-1	●	—
South Sydney	1-5	1-2	—	—	—	—

Marconi v. Sth. Sydney 2-1

Good start

Two goals up in the first 13 minutes, Marconi could have won this game handsomely, but after they faded away in the second half they were a trifle lucky to come out winners.

Souths were sluggish in the early stages, but their second half performance could have earned them a share of the spoils if their shooting hadn't been so much astray.

Marconi started impressively and Ray Richards got off the mark with a dazzling solo effort down the middle eluding half a dozen defenders before slipping the ball to Santoro who made no mistake from close range.

With the South Sydney defence at sixes and sevens, Marconi kept up the pressure and a long ball by John Cudek was intercepted by Alan Griffiths who slid past two defenders before beating Corry with a well placed shot.

After this goal Marconi seemed to run out of steam and after a short burst in the opening minutes of the second half in which Griffiths and Scheinflug hit both uprights, they allowed South Sydney to take the initiative.

South Sydney lifted their game considerably in the

— CHARLES SPITERI

Merrickville v. Auburn 3-1

Spirited revival

Merrickville Olympic surprised friend and foe alike with a bright first half display which sunk a hapless Auburn, going from bad to worse.

Merrickville was the only team in it in the first half and they fully deserved their 3-0 lead at the break even if there wasn't much glory attached to their first two goals.

The first should never have been allowed because Terry Thompson impeded the 18-year-old Auburn goalie John Dunn as he jumped to gather a high centre from Billy Kerklaan, which floated in over his head.

The second, a penalty for "hands", was rather generously awarded, 1 felt, by referee Peter Rampley.

Olympic's third goal was a beauty as Thompson, who is not without promise, neatly dribbled his way past a wall of defenders to score.

Auburn staged a comeback of sorts in the second half, but although they reduced their arrears through Froud in the 56th minute, they were too hasty in front of goal to fully exploit the weaknesses in the Olympic defence.

Merrickville Olympic: Demopoulos 3, Bamforth 3 (replaced Raeburn 21 min.), Harris 3, Hardy 4, J. Xipolitis 4, Romanos 3, Lowry 4, Zivkovic 3, Thompson 4, Kerklaan 3 (Massi 40 min.), Whitehead 3. **Total:** 37.

Auburn: Dunn 3, Hawkins 3, Hoggart 3 (replaced by Froud 44 min.), Craggs 3, Strachan 4, De Santi 3, Edwards 2 (Chambers 2), McDonald 3, Schneider 4, Sidey 2, Lambert 2. **Total:** 32.

Scorers: Kerklaan 23 min., Whitehead 25 min. (penalty), Thompson 34 min. for Merrickville; Froud 56 min. for Auburn.

Referee: P. Rampley. **Crowd:** 3,920 (double-header). — LOU GAUTIER

APIA v. MARCONI 3-1

Cup holders had to fight

APIA didn't win as easily as the scoreline might indicate.

Actually, they were given quite a fright in the first half when Santoro deservedly put Marconi ahead in the 27th minute.

With just a slice of ordinary luck Marconi should have been leading 2-0 because Richards hit the bar with a tremendous 30-yard drive which looked a goal all the way.

APIA regained their composure in the latter stages of the first half and were back in business a minute before halftime when Stan Forster scored the first of his three goals.

Ray Richards, a new man in club football since his successful tour with Australia, was the pick of a gallant Marconi XI.

— LOU GAUTIER

But Hakoah never really got going; the passes from their midfielders were painfully inaccurate and the forwards hardly created any chances.

Towards the end Pan Hellenic had a chance to wrap up the game and provide the season's first major upset.

However, Barboutis missed from six yards out, thus letting a dismal Hakoah off the hook.

Pan Hellenic: Clarke 3, Henson 4, H. Xipolitis 4, Hignett 4, Barboutis 3, Wetton 4, Smith 4, Harding 2,

APIA: McQuire 4, Keith 3, Ackerley 4, McGillivray 3, Hughes 3, Russell 4, Montgomery 3 (Campbell 3), Blues 4, McKinnon 4, Forster 5, Madrussan 4. **Total:** 41.

Marconi: Murray 3, Jones 3, Curran 4, Cornally 3, Taylor 3, Scheinflug 3, Danajevits 4, Richards 5, Santoro 4, Griffith 3, Cudek 2 (Giacometti 3). **Total:** 37.

Scorers: Forster 34, 43 and 66 mins. for APIA, Santoro 27 min. for Marconi.

Referee: K. Lockrey. **Crowd:** 3,920 (double-header).

AMPOL CUP 1971

Big week coming up for waterlogged Hellenic

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Main Ampol Cup interest this week will centre on Pan Hellenic's three outings in five days as they catch up with their backlog of deferred matches — weather permitting, of course . . .

The Pan Hellenic v. Western Suburbs and Pan Hellenic v. Ryde games hold the key to the fate of at least one of the semi-finalists from Group "A" in which Hakoah, another contender, also have a vital match — against Ryde.

Our tip: Draw.

APIA v.
St. George-Budapest

St. George-Budapest's very indifferent Ampol Cup form must be worrying their supporters before the arduous commitments which await them in Asia in a fortnight.

Our tip: Draw.

The APIA fans, on the other hand, don't have a care in the world and are entitled to dream about a successful defence of the Ampol Cup.

Against Marconi APIA played like true pros.

They didn't lose their heads when things went against them in the first half hour, weathered the storm and then gradually took over to run out winners with something to spare.

This APIA is a well-oiled machine with no weaknesses, and will even be stronger when Ernie Campbell has a few more training sessions under his belt and when Pat Hughes settles in at stopper.

Mediocre against Prague and South Coast, Saints have no reason to be optimistic against their eternal nemesis.

St. George, of course, can never be discounted, what with all the talent at their disposal, but it's obvious only the best can beat APIA in their present all-conquering mood.

Our tip: APIA.

Western Suburbs v.
Auburn

By no stretch of the imagination can one forecast anything but a comfortable victory for the impressive First Division "babes".

Against Ryde last week, in the best match of the series, Western Suburbs served notice they will definitely be one of the main contenders to top honors this year.

And so they should with the players on their books!

Auburn have little or nothing to counter players of the calibre of Spikerman, an early contender

RAY BAARTZ

Ryde have always done exceptionally well against Hakoah, who will have to improve to reverse the trend.

The defeat against Western Suburbs will not have been in vain if it succeeds to bring Ryde back down to earth.

It was obvious by the temperamental manner in which some of their players carried on that they have started believing they are a super-team which deserves special privileges from referees and opponents alike.

The loss of form of so many key players must be a big worry to Hakoah's coach Jock Aird.

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ARCHIE BLUE

for top Sydney goalscoring honors in 1971, Kinnell, Turner, Blue, Johnston Hargreaves or Van Blerk.

Last week Wests' only weakness, surprisingly, was goalkeeper Ross Kelly, who was directly responsible for both Ryde goals.

Against Auburn he should, however, have a carefree evening while his opposite number is certain to be in for a harrowing 70 minutes.

Our tip: Western Suburbs.

South Coast v.
Marconi

With their invincibility at Woonona a thing of the past now, United can't be all that sure of opening their Ampol account against Marconi on Friday, despite their prestige win over Saints.

Although Marconi are experiencing difficulties with injuries to key players, especially in defence where Moschen and Roche are being sorely missed, they won't surrender without a fight and South Coast will have to repeat their "St. George" form to win their second cup match.

Col Curran, who had a satisfactory debut last week, should give South Coast fans a glimpse of the form which made him one of the

AMPOL POINTS

WIN = 12 points

DRAW = 5 points

LOSS = NO points

GOAL = 1 point

stars of last year's Australian team.

Another tourist, Ray Richards, has been the mainstay of Marconi so far this year and on current form should make both the NSW and Australian teams.

Marconi still have a problem with their goalkeeper, because Murray, despite some good saves late in the match against Souths, is still inconsistent and has an unsettling influence on his rearguard.

Few goals are likely in a match which could go either way.

Our tip: Draw.

Prague v.
South Sydney

Prague will take a giant step towards qualifying for the semifinals of the Cup they have won a record six times if they win Sunday's early match.

On the teams' respective forms to date this should be a formality.

Coaches Bunja and Mazzina have done good work with their charges and have their forwards scoring goals at last.

More important, however, Prague are again starting to play the pattern football introduced by Joe Venglos.

Pan Hellenic will be playing their third match in five days, and although they should still be too strong for their fellow Greeks, their heavy program may slow them down and make this a fairly close contest.

Pan Hellenic's form against Hakoah must have delighted their fans.

While still retaining their traditional brisk pace and



DAVE HARDING

all-action style, they also showed welcome signs of method and cohesion in their play.

If Pan Hellenic perform well against Wests and Ryde during the week, Sunday's match will draw the biggest crowd so far this year.

Should they be out of semifinal reckoning by Sunday, the match will only have academical interest because Marrickville have nothing to offer in the way of luring crowds at this stage.

Our tip: Pan Hellenic.

AMPOL CUP REFEREES

Hakoah v. Ryde — A. Boskovic, St. George v. APIA — W. Novelli, Wests v. Pan Hellenic — F. Shisa, Auburn v. Wests — N. Campbell, Ryde v.

Pan Hellenic — P. Rampley, St. George v. South Sydney — A. Boskovic, SCU v. Marconi — F. Shisa, South Sydney v. Prague — P. Rampley, Marrickville Olympic v. Pan Hellenic — K. Lockrey.

TEAMS

HAKOAH

HAFFY
FEKETE
HILLSDON
WATKISS
MARNOCH
YAAGER
MUNIZ
KEEDIE
IZATTI
BAARTZ
SILVA

RYDE
CAJKUSIC
CRNIC
BAKARIC
WATERS
I. RUDIC
TRKULJA
J. ALAGICH
F. RUDIC
BRAJKOVIC
TAKAC
VOLAR

APIA
MC GUIRE
KEITH
ACKERLEY
MCGILLIVRAY
HUGHES
RUSSELL
CAMPBELL
BLUES
FORSTER
MCKINNON
MADRUSAN

ST. GEORGE

FRASER
SANDELL
UTJESNOVIC
SCHAEFER
WILLIAMS
HARRIS
AINSLIE
WARREN
ABONYI
ALSTON
DENTON

WESTS
KELLY
VAN BLERK
HARGREAVES
JOHNSTON
KINNELL
BLUE
PONT
GUILDEA
TURNER
SPIEKERMAN
BYLES

AUBURN

DUNN
HAWKINS
HOGGART
CRAGGS
STRACHAN
De SANTI
EDWARDS
MC DONALD
SCHNEIDER
FROUD
LAMBERT

SOUTH COAST

RAMAGE
TUCKERMAN
CUTHBERT
WALKER
WILSON
GALBRAITH
MCGUCKIN
GRUICIC
TOLSON
DUNLOP
MCGUNNIGLE

MARCONI
MURRAY
JONES
CURRAN
RICHARDS
TAYLOR
SCHEINFELD
DANAYEVITS
CONNOLY
SANTORO
GRIFFITHS
CUDEK

PRAGUE

TUINMAN
HARCOMBE
WEIR
BLACKER
ZEMAN
ROOTSEY
ARMYTAGE
BLANCO
MANUEL
ROONEY
PERRY

SOUTH SYDNEY

CORRY
DARVILL
CARR
DOYLE
SHEPHERD
WRIGHT
TAYLOR
REYNOLDS
HARRIS
TRAIL
MCLEAN

PAN HELLENIC

CLARKE
HENSON
HIGNETT
BAROUTIS
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A ruinous honor

Israel's share of World Cup takings in Mexico was \$49,550 — a far cry from the \$150,000 the ASF expected to take home had Australia qualified for the finals. The Israeli FA claims their World Cup venture cost them almost \$200,000.

Soviets join Europe

The Soviet Union will break new ground next season by entering teams in every European club competition and participating in the Fairs Cup for the first time. The USSR's representatives will be CSKA Moscow in the Champions' Cup, Dynamo Moscow in the Cupwinners' Cup, and Spartak Moscow and Dynamo Tbilissi in the Fairs' Cup.

Mexico's second World Cup

The following countries will take part in the second World Cup for women at the Azteca Stadium, Mexico City, this year: Mexico, Argentina, Italy, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, France, England and West Germany. Denmark won the first World Cup for ladies in Italy two years ago.

Getting ready for 1978

Boca Juniors, Argentina's best supported club, have completed the plans for their new 140,000 spectator capacity stadium which will be used for the final of the 1978 World Cup, to be staged in Argentina. Costs have been split three ways, the Argentinian Government, the Buenos Aires Municipal Council and the club's 55,000 "socios" contributing seven million dollars each.

Down the drain

Shed a tear for Arsenal. The football club spent \$150,000 installing a drainage and ground heating system designed to beat bad weather conditions. Last month it rained on the afternoon of Arsenal's FA Cup match with Portsmouth at home. The match was called off — because the pitch was waterlogged. As one fan said: "At least with our underground heating we know it's warm water."

Kubala may coach Benfica

Benfica are almost certain to part with their English coach, Jimmy Hogan, next season. With the Portuguese title again out of their grasp, the once-mighty Lisbon club may turn to Ladislas Kubala, the Hungarian-born coach of the Spanish national team. Kubala is said to be prepared to move to Portugal if Benfica guarantee him a \$40,000 one-year contract.

Netto must stay

Igor Netto, the all-time great Soviet star, is reported to be fed up with coaching the Iranian national team. He is, however, expected to serve his two-year term in Teheran as his departure would embarrass the Soviet government's current friendly attitude towards its Caspian neighbor.

Birthday present

The Belgian FA granted a sweeping amnesty to all suspended players in the country to mark its 75th anniversary. The clemency measures affected 456 players whose sentences ranged from one week to life suspensions.

Soccer captains

Jackie Charlton doesn't think much of a captain's role in soccer. "Captains don't mean an awful lot in soccer," says Charlton. "It's not like cricket. Most of the decisions are made off the field, anyway." The Leeds defender was commenting on Alan Mullery's recent appointment as England skipper in place of Bobby Moore.



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The brilliant Jairzinho, pictured here with Facchetti in last year's World Cup final, is in hot water with his Rio club, Botafogo. Jairzinho is alleged to have caused considerable damage in a posh nightclub after an argument over the bill. Botafogo not only made their star winger pay for the damage, but also fined him \$400 for breaking pre-match curfew.

• Peru's right winger, Perico Leon, a big success in the World Cup, has been transferred, along with team-mate Catayud, to Penarol of Montevideo (Uruguay). Their former club was Alianza Lima.

• Drago Sekularac, the former Yugoslav international, has been suspended by his Colombian club, Santa Fe (Bogota), for striking a team-mate during an argument at training.

• The Danish FA is likely to relent and allow in the future expatriate Danes to go home and play for their country.

• Cuba's championship was won for the third successive year by Gamaguye, coached by the Hungarian Janos Szoke.

• Lajos Baross, at present coach of Hungarian champions Ujpest, has reportedly signed a contract to be Peru's manager-coach after August 1.

• Two Rumanian clubs are also touring South America at the moment — Dynamo and Rapid, both of Bucharest.

• The Turkish national team has a new manager-coach, the Yugoslav Gegic, ex-Sarajevo. Gegic was the highly successful coach of the Turkish First Division side Eskihir until his appointment.

• Did you know that there is a club in Ecuador, South America, called "Lev Yashin", after the famous Dynamo Moscow goalkeeper? The club with the unusual name recently won the championship of the province of Tungura.

• Cornel Dinu, Dynamo Bucharest's fullback, is the Rumanian Player of the Year for 1970.

• Italian idol Gianni Rivera has broken off his long-standing romance with his girlfriend Irena Zarpanelly, a blond beauty queen. "Love, alas, is not eternal", Rivera told the Roman gossip columnist who broke the news.

• A 31-year-old deaf and dumb London banker, Sir Nicolas Carlyle, is the number one supporter of Italy's FC Napoli. Carlyle flies to Italy for each Napoli home match at their Fuorigrotta ground. Napoli's president, Livio Ferlaino, will present Carlyle with a plaque at a special ceremony next month.

• France will be among the best in the world within three years — so said Brazilian FA president Joao Havelange, after the impressive South American tour by the French national team.

• An international indoor tournament at Berlin's Deutschlandhalle last month attracted 102,000 spectators in six days.

• Ace sharpshooter Gerd Muller has lost his golden touch this season. The European "Player of the Year" has only scored 10 goals in the Bundesliga and is a distant eighth in the goalscoring list, headed by fellow international Vogt.

• There was a record number of transfers during the Soviet off-season. Forty-two players changed clubs, including Dynamo Moscow's Chuliatzki, who moved to Karpati Lwov.

• Paul van Himst, the Belgian centre-forward who had been blacklisted since the last World Cup, made a triumphant return to the national team by scoring two of the three goals in Belgium's 3-0 European Championship win against the feeble Scots at Liege a fortnight ago.

• This year in Hungary the transfer of players will be limited to a two-week period, from July 1 to 15.

• Rattin, Argentina's captain of dubious 1966 World Cup fame, may be coaxed out of retirement to play for Monterrey, in Mexico.

Pele turns to writing

Pele's third book has just been released. Called "World champion three times," the 320-page book sold 125,000 copies in its first week of publication. His first two books, "My life" and "Son of the sun" sold 550,000 copies in three languages. His latest work will be the first one to be translated into English.

Pan American Games

Twelve teams will take part in the Pan American Games' soccer tournament in Cali, Colombia, in July. The tournament, for amateurs only, will include the United States, Mexico, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Cuba, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Jamaica and Suriname.

Still no coach

Czechoslovakia still hasn't got a national coach. Inter Bratislava's Laszlo Kacsanyi, who toured Australia last year, declined the nomination in the last minute. There is talk that the post will be filled by Slovan Bratislava's Vitchan, whose contract with the Slovakian club expires next month.

Globe-trotting North Koreans

The North Koreans are leaving no stone unturned to tune up for their coming Olympic Games qualifying matches against Syria and Iran. Not only content to tour Eastern Europe in June, they will also play six matches in Argentina and Chile later this year.

Party line

Not important, but interesting... Budapest's daily sports paper in its February 6 issue announced the death of former Stalinist Party boss Matyas Rakosi, in the Soviet resort city of Gorki — giving the news four lines — the same space as to a provincial soccer result. And we do the same here, of course...

Dynamo players honored

Two Moscow Dynamo players gained a place in the Soviet "Team of the Year", selected by their FA. They are the midfielder Zhikov and the left winger Yevrujichin.

Crowded Asian schedule

According to the announcements of the tournament dates made by South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia, there will be difficulty in fitting in their respective tournaments unless adjustments are made to space them out. The relevant dates are: President's Cup of South Korea from May 7, Asian Cup Central Regional Tournament in Bangkok from May 12, Djakarta Anniversary Tournament from June 1. While in Bangkok, Police Lt. Gen. Torsak Yomnak, President, FA of Thailand, informed the Confederation that the Central Regional Tournament of the Asian Cup would commence on May 12. Since 10 countries are eligible to compete, at least 20 days should be set aside for this tournament. It is clear that the three tournaments concerned cannot all be staged in between May 7 and June 1. It is therefore necessary that Korea and Indonesia will have to adjust their dates for the invitation tournaments or carry on their tournaments as planned without the countries who will be occupied with the Central Regional Tournament in Bangkok.

HAKOAH REFUSE TO BE USED FOR POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

— By PAUL DEAN —

One can only applaud the decision of the Hakoah Soccer Club not to be directly involved in the planned boycott against Moscow Dynamo.

Hakoah officials this week said that they would not withdraw any of their five players from the State squad.

All five are training with the NSW team and are available for selection.

Hakoah have also announced that the club as such would not put any pressure on their former president, Karl Rodry to resign as NSW manager.

Rodry himself also said that regardless of the attitude of the Jewish community, he would stay in his post, which he regards as a soccer appointment, quite divorced from political or racial overtones.

The Jewish Board of Deputies last week appealed to members of their community to boycott the Australian matches of Moscow Dynamo.

They did this in a protest against the oppression of Jews in the Soviet Union.

They have every democratic right to make this appeal and it will be left to the individual Jews in Australia whether they heed it or ignore it.

If this is the extent of the boycott planned against Moscow Dynamo, few can argue the point.

There is strong evidence that Jews in the Soviet Union are oppressed, so if they wish to snub the Moscovites, they have plenty of reason.

It is to be hoped, however, that Hakoah club, as such, will continue to resist the pressure to go any further than this, or to be directly involved.

Hakoah are one of the members of the NSW Federation, not a political or religious group campaigning for civil liberties for Jews in other parts of the world.

It would be a shortsighted blunder if they, as a soccer club, became the flag carriers for the Jewish Board of Deputies in this anti-Soviet campaign.

It hardly needs pointing out that it's not only the Jews but many others who are oppressed in the Soviet Union.

The Ukrainians, Volga Germans, Georgians and many other minorities are not exactly receiving favored-son treatment from the Kremlin, either.

In fact, you could say without too much exaggeration, that the entire population of the Soviet Union is under some sort of political oppression.

If the Jews of Sydney are justified in protesting against the presence of a Soviet team here, so are the Poles, Czechoslovaks, Hungarians, Rumanians, Bulgarians, East

Germans, Latvians, Estonians and Lithuanians.

Perhaps — even the Russians.

Surely it hasn't yet been forgotten that in 1956 Soviet tanks crushed the Hungarian uprising; that it was Soviet troops again in 1968 that nipped in the bud Czechoslovakia's "spring of freedom".

Since then, in 1970, Moscow Dynamo visited Australia, but we cannot recollect any protest against their presence.

It is obvious that a proper sense of balance must be kept whenever one deals with such touchy subjects.

The accepted norm in the Western world is to condemn and isolate countries in international sport which show racial segregation or prejudices — in sport.

This is why South Africa has been booted out from almost all international federations.

But the Soviet Union does not preach and practise apartheid in sport.

Many of their sporting champions, including the former high jumping marvel Brunet and almost all their world champion chess players are Jews.

Whether we like or dislike the Soviet system does not come into it at all.

If only those nations met on the sporting fields who happen to love one another, there wouldn't be many events held in one year.

Even in Sydney soccer,

grudges of this type could effectively wreck the competition.

If the Hakoah club decided to be actively involved in this anti-Dynamo movement, they would have been certain to provide fresh ammunition to those who for long have campaigned for the total abolition of all ethnic clubs.

It would prove to these critics that Hakoah are primarily a Jewish and not Australian club, vitally involved in Jewish affairs whether here or 10,000 miles away.

In the past all such charges levelled against our ethnic clubs have been strongly denied, claiming that migrant-named clubs keep their identities purely for romantic reasons.

We are in the business of running a NSW Federation, not a United Nations Security Council.

It is not our prerogative to call for sanctions against other nations or even visiting teams.

This is the point the Deputies must understand very clearly.

All the world sympathises with the plight of the Russian Jewry; no feeling human being can ever be indifferent to the sufferings of others.

But this is neither the time nor the place to crusade for civil liberties — and a soccer club is certainly not the vehicle to be used for such purposes.

National League still only a vague dream

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Despite last Saturday week's meeting in Sydney by the presidents of the State Federations, an Australian National League is still as remote as ever.

NSW and Victoria remain the stumbling blocks for the immediate implementation of a national club competition.

South Australia, Queensland and Newcastle — which have nothing to lose but all to gain — have indicated they could supply clubs at short notice, but the two major States want more time to think over the implications and implementation of such a major move.

Victoria's delegates at the conference, however, went on record saying they were very interested in the formation of a National League — the first time they have ever committed themselves to the idea.

NSW president Frank Parsons, mindful of how divided are the clubs he represents over the question of a National League, was more dubious as to the feasibility of such a competition.

LOOSE ENDS

Parsons rightly feels there are too many loose ends in the blueprint of the National League as it now stands.

Apart from determining which clubs will at first qualify for the new competition, and under which criterion, NSW also have the matter of match dates to consider.

With four National League teams planned for Sydney, there would have to be a National League match on both days of the weekend or two on Sunday.

Since these matches are likely to get more publicity in the Press and attract bigger crowds, attendances at non-National League matches would suffer.

For Parsons this is the main stumbling block of the National League: how to reconcile the interests of National League clubs and those that will be playing in the regional Sydney championship.

Parsons is also unconvinced at this stage that a National League would

automatically mean larger crowds.

Say, an APIA v. JUST (Melbourne) match would draw more than APIA v. Ryde.

And even if it attracted 1,000 people, this wouldn't be nearly enough to cover the travelling costs involved.

The meeting of State presidents also touched briefly on the question of names for National League teams.

South Australia called for the abolition of ethnic names, but like most other matters pertaining to the National League this was deferred, for further discussion at an unspecified later date.

While no one seems really opposed in principle to a National League, the general feeling is that it can only be a success if NSW gives its full support to the new venture.

DIVIDED INTERESTS

This, for a multitude of reasons, is far from secured as in no other State is there a sharper division of interests and opinions concerning the project.

NSW, however, agreed to meet in the near future their Victorian colleagues to work out some experimental competition for 1973 between clubs from the two States to test public reaction to a National League.

What form this "test" will take is vague at the moment.

It seems to us that in the ill-fated Australia Cup, the ASF and the States had the ideal vehicle to prepare a National League.

The Australia Cup, however, was never given a chance to operate successfully, and consequently died a natural death.

If the planned National League is to avoid a similar fate — which would be catastrophic for the whole game in general — it will take many years of solid preparation before such a competition can even get off the ground.

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QUICK START FOR SAINTS ON TOUR

St. George-Budapest will start their tour in Macao a few hours after their arrival there on Sunday, February 28.

Three days later they will play in Hong Kong's Government Stadium against Jardines, the team Australia beat 3-0 last October.

They will arrive in Tokyo on Thursday, March 4.

Their first match in Japan will be on March 7, against Japan.

Meanwhile, the Saints have selected their touring players — these will leave on February 27.

READERS' LETTERS

Queensland seeks tours

Being an avid reader of "Soccer World" it has come to my notice that many visits from overseas teams (particularly the ones sponsored by clubs) never seem to reach Queensland.

This is a pity as soccer in Queensland is becoming more popular all the time.

Inclusion of Queensland in tour itineraries will not only assist the promotion of soccer in Queensland, but also add to the financial rewards of any such tour.

I would appreciate it if in future any club planning a tour contacts me to discuss the possibilities of incorporating a Queensland visit.

Furthermore, would any club be interested in forming a body to promote such trips, preferably one major club from each State?

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Jilted Rapid will protest to A.S.F.

Riverside Rapid, the Sydney Austrian-based football club, has set out a heavy program in a strong challenge for the Inter-Suburban First Division.

The club was hard hit by its non-acceptance in the Federation Third Division.

Riverside, however, suffered an early shock at the hands of the vastly improved Lane Cove club, going down 3-4 in a hard fought trial at Mahoney Oval.

Lane Cove were right on top at halftime, and were 4-1 ahead.

Riverside came back into the game, but by missing a penalty kick they failed to gain a draw.

Some compensation had come in the early game, won 2-0 by Riverside.

Next week Riverside line up against Marrickville, so they should be well prepared for the State Cup games.

Riverside secretary Fred Holler says the club will protest to the Australian Soccer Federation, if necessary, against their exclusion from the Federation Third Division.

"We have as strong a committee as most First Division clubs.

"Riverside feels the Third Division was formed to provide for Northern Districts club, and we regard competition entry as dependent upon form on the field.

"Accordingly, we should have had our Third Division place ahead of Revesby Workers and Campbelltown," Holler said.

Crisp shots

In a remarkable coaching turnabout, George McMillan and Edmund Kreft, have swapped the positions they held last year.

Kreft, coach of the 1970 State team and SA coach for the VSS Kosice game, is now Juventus' coach while McMillan last week was appointed SA coach.

McMillan guided Juventus to the 1970 championship and the Federation Cup and it was obviously these achievements which led to his appointment over three rival candidates.

McMillan's first official act after his appointment as coach and sole selector was to drop five of the squad which lost 0-1 to VSS Kosice and add six new players for Wednesday's game against Moscow Dynamo.

Wally Fedczyszyn (USC Lion), Nick Kefaloudis (WA Hellas), Loukas Kouzapa and Marian Kolecki (Polonia) and Barrie Reynolds (Budapest), have given way to, Peter Tsitsos, Dave Pillans (WA Hellas), Mick Harper, Chris Manoley (Elizabeth City) and John Nyskohus, Joe Baxter (USC Lion).

Flame-haired Juventus midfielder, Graham Sherriffs was suspended for three games on a charge of kicking Polonia forward Roger Ciach.

Lively Polonia striker, John Mielnik has resumed training following a successful cartilage operation. He is not, however, expected to play until the start of the league season.

Australian international goalkeeper, Roger Romanowicz played his 200th game for Polonia last Monday night (February 15). He is only the third player to reach the milestone.

SA Ampol Cup scorecard:—

Budapest 2 (Hughes, Bakurski, penalty) d. Polonia 1 (Mielnik).

USC Lion 2 (Ball, Dackiw) d. WA Hellas 1 (Pantelis, penalty).

Campbelltown-Azzurri 2 (Peterson, Saccardo) drew with Victoria 2 (Gaughey, McKenzie).

Juventus 7 (White 2, Serafini 2, Norman 2, Tamandl) d. Elizabeth City 0.

— ALLAN CRISP

WITH THE AMATEURS

— BY KEITH GILMOUR —

Suburban junior clubs are due for top marks for the enlightened way in which so many of them are approaching the opening of the football season.

The efforts of some of the clubs around the northern suburbs are particularly noteworthy.

An excellent brochure has been issued for display by shopkeepers and enthusiasts by the Gordon Junior SFC.

A front display of a player in action is the highlight.

For more detailed information on training grounds and club activities the brochure folds out four-fold to set out the details.

Mt. Colah club has engaged coach Mick Jones for a series of lectures to players and coaches.

At the Pymble Community Centre State coach Les Scheinflug is addressing a big meeting on Monday, February 22, at 8 p.m.

John Roche and Ray Richards will give their impressions of the 1970 Australian world tour.

Carlingford District — the "Redbacks" — went to press with views on the reasons why not enough junior players move through to senior ranks.

Although there must obviously be a wastage of talent as youngsters go

ahead to broader interests and careers, treatment of this topic has at times been marked by sporting entry was a very small one prejudices and lack of indeed.

Taking NSW as a whole, there are 800-900 senior amateur teams so the Cup entry was a very small one.

The limited opening for clubs to enter had the effect of leading the amateur clubs to press for the opportunity to compete in the newly restored Federation State Cup competition.

In this some amateur clubs will weather the storm, and face up to the Second Division clubs in a bid to gain a place in the final rounds of the State Cup.

That's the big opening — but what of the 1971 Amateur Cup?

NSW Amateur secretary B. Emery told SOCCER WORLD that, although the clubs entering will have to be prepared to play on nominated dates, the amateur Federation will this year do everything possible to enable clubs to meet their playing commitments in the Amateur Cup.

The assurance is welcome, as the State Cup threatens to outshine the Amateur Cup.

The existence of the NSW Amateur Cup as a meaningful competition depends upon a wide entry coming forward.

Let's hope the amateur clubs at least double their entries this year, in spite of the glamor and early start of the State Cup ties.

POLONIA AGAIN AT CROSSROADS

— BY CHARLES SPITERI —

Polonia-North Side will not make a concentrated effort to win the 1971 championship and promotion, but will try to rebuild for a big effort in the immediate future.

However, Polonia will be one of the hardest teams to beat and will be a thorn in the side for the more ambitious teams seeking promotion this season.

Under the coaching of John Nowacki, who already took the side to First Division before, and his assistant Milan Skovic, Polonia are certain to retain the services of their more experienced players.

The side has enticed former goalkeeper Joe Drewniak out of retirement and he will line up with such well-known players like Winiarski, Krawiarz, Szmidt, Starek, Calphy and others.

A new and larger committee has been elected recently under president Eddy Dropczynski, secretary John Molski and treasurer Frank Bogdalski.

These men will spearhead discussions for a proposed new club at a meeting of members to be held at St. Patrick's, Blacktown, on Saturday, February 27.

The club's matches this season will be almost split down the middle, half being played at North Sydney Oval and the rest at Bankstown Centre.

There is a possibility that some games will be played Fridays under floodlights if problems associated with the staging could be overcome.

Training sessions are held on Mondays and Wednesdays, between 8 p.m. and 9.30 p.m., and young players between the ages of 15 and 18 are still needed for the third grade side.

Further particulars for any of the club's activities can be obtained from John Molski on 644-8197.

COOK'S TOUR OF MELBOURNE

With the last preliminary Ampol Cup round scheduled for this Friday night, three of the semi-finalists are now known — JUST, Croatia and Polonia.

This week's matches are:— Croatia v. Polonia; JUST v. SM Hellas.

The Croatia v. Polonia game is almost meaningless, except that both sides will be keen to top their section. And although Polonia have a full quota of points from their previous two games, opposed to Croatia's three points, I fancy after this match Croatia will head their section.

The JUST v. Hellas game is, however, highly competitive and Hellas on no easy task must snatch a point to accompany JUST into the semis. If Hellas fail and are beaten, then Juventus will win through and atone for missing out last year.

Last week's Ampol Cup results were: Wilhelmina 1 (Bunce, penalty) v. Melbourne 1 (Shanks); Hakoah 1 (Kurta) v. Juventus 5 (B. Thomson 3, Frost, Salisbury).

A transfer deal in the offing, and one which could go through before this goes in print, is an exchange between Hakoah and Lions which would see former Hakoah long serving wing-half Hugh Murney return to Middle Park from the Essendon side with Derek Panther and Barry Sanson of Hakoah moving to Lions. Murney's younger brother Gerry is with APIA in Sydney.

Wilhelmina, who failed to get past the qualifying stages of the Ampol Cup and are out of competitive soccer until the State League program commences on March 27, will by then have a quartet of imports to boost their league title hopes. Chris Morris, ex-York City, and Keith Cockburn, ex-Northwick Victoria, both forwards, are already here and will shortly be joined by two 21-year-olds — Peter Ollerton, a six-foot centre from Fleetwood, and John Sykes, a linkman or utility forward who has seen service with Bradford City and Wrexham.

Victoria will play South Australia in Melbourne on Sunday, March 14.

Alexander, George Cross and Lions, three of the bottom four clubs in the State League at the end of last season who have been inactive since September 1970, and promoted Box Hill will take part in a mini-competition as curtain-raisers to the Ampol Cup semis and final. With no real indication of improvement in the way of new signings, none of the quartet of teams can be optimistic about their chances for the league season ahead.

Either Lou Brocic has a soft spot for South Melbourne-Hellas or the Greek side have a soft spot for Brocic . . . For the Yugoslav-born coach, who was in charge of New Zealand's national team for some time and also had a spell with JUST, is back for his third stint as coach to South Melbourne-Hellas.

Billy Rice, that evergreen Irishman from Belfast, is in his 16th year of senior soccer in Victoria and is by far the longest-serving first team regular in State League soccer. Billy has spent the biggest part of his career with JUST and previous to joining them was with Footscray-Capri, who amalgamated with JUST many years ago. Next longest-serving State League player with the same club is Alan Stenhouse, who is in his ninth year with Hakoah.

Two former first team Melbourne-HSC players who returned to the U.K. some considerable time ago are "lost" according to secretary-manager Joe Szalay. The club has no idea what has happened to left winger Colin Myers and fullback David Fearn.

The Victorian State League soccer season starts on March 27-28 with the split round as usual — three games Saturday and three on Sunday. This means there will be a two-week "break" between the Ampol Cup final and the first State League games and during this period it's likely some of the locals will arrange interstate fixtures as well as trials between themselves.

— JIM COOK

GLADESVILLE-RYDE

CORINTHIANS

SOCCER CLUB

Invites all junior and senior experienced players interested to join the club in the 1971 season to attend training sessions at

Trumper Park, Paddington
Wednesdays and Fridays at 6.45 p.m.

Further details could be obtained from

Mr. A. Gibson, Phone: 896-1771